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• THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The matter is under consideration. As soon as the departments have examined the question, I shall take a decision on that point."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" The Delimitation Commission has made certain new proposals disturbing the existing seats in the State of Madras. May I know who was responsible for such kind of alterations and changes? Had the Tamilnad Congress Committee in its official capacity represented through any proposal that changes should be made? I want to know this because we are led to believe that the constituencies of the non-Congress Members in this House have been dislocated whereas the constituencies of the Congress Members have been favourably adjusted? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" It is not correct, Sir. No representation was made by the Tamilnad Congress Committee. Apart from that, these changes have been made by the Commission which has as its Chairman an ex-Supreme Court Judge. I don't think they will be influenced by any representation from this party or that party. They go by the census figures and also by the topography of the district concerned."

*Closure of the Producers-*cum*-Consumers' Co-operative Society at Iritty, North Malabar.*

* 603 *Q.*—SRI K. MADHAVAN NAMBIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Producers-*cum*-Consumers' Co-operative Society, Iritty, in Kottayam taluk, North Malabar, is on the verge of liquidation and if so, what its present state is;

(*b*) since how long this society has stopped the distribution work of rationed articles;

(*c*) whether the Government have taken any steps to hand over charge of this society to the Registrar of Co-operative Societies on relief from the Civil Supplies Department;

(*d*) the reason for the delay in settling the accounts of this society with the Government and *vice versa;*

(*e*) whether any loss has been sustained by the society due to the non-settlement of the accounts of the Civil Supplies Department; and

(*f*) the present state of the criminal and civil charges of misappropriation against the ex-secretary of this society which arose during March 1952?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) No, Sir. With the abolition of procurement work and due to defalcation of funds, the society found it impossible to function as an economic concern with the distribution work alone. The general body and the Board of Directors of the society have therefore decided to convert the society into a co-operative marketing society.

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"(b) Since 6th October 1953.

"(c) The Collector of Malabar has addressed the Registrar of Co-operative Societies to take over the society. The Registrar will take charge of the society as soon as the arrears due from the society to the Government and the amount due to the society from the Government are adjusted."

"(d) The delay is due to the correspondence that has to be carried on between the Collector, the subordinate officers and the Board before the accounts could be settled.

"(e) No, Sir.

"(f) The criminal case against the ex-secretary of the society is pending with the Additional First-class Magistrate, Tellicherry. The arbitration reference against the ex-secretary is pending with the District Supply Officer. It could not be taken up as the connected records are filed in the Court of the Additional First-class Magistrate, Tellicherry."

SRI K. MADHAVAN NAMBIAR :—" What is the amount due to the society from the Government? Why have the Government delayed payment for such a long time? Are the Government aware that the society has experienced great financial hardship due to the delay in payment?"

MR. SPEAKER :—" I wish to know from the Hon. Minister whether the matter is before a court."

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Yes, Sir. A criminal case against the secretary is pending in the court."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Then I pass on to the next question."

Detection of Prohibition cases by the Police and Prohibition departments.

604 Q.—SRI A. RATNAM (on behalf of Sri M. Dharmalingam) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state the number of cases detected by the Police and Prohibition departments in their respective districts during the years 1949–50 and 1952–53?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" A statement [a] showing the number of cases detected under the Prohibition Act during the years 1949–50 and 1952–53 in the Residuary State is placed on the table of the House."

SRI T. ANANTHA PAI :—" The figures given for 1952–53 show that there has been a considerable increase in the detection of Prohibition cases. May I know what is the inference drawn by the Government? Do they consider that detection has improved or crimes have increased?"

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[a] **Printed as Appendix on page 374 infra.**